



WELCOME JANUARY!

Happy New Year! I hope to follow the advice of [Anthony Douglas Williams](#) this year and begin each day with goodness in my heart, caring in my soul and peace in my mind – this will be a good mindset to maintain as my Council colleagues and I continue the 2023/24 budget discussions.

I wish you and yours health and happiness as we begin 2023 and always.

This month’s newsletter has information on the extended deadline for volunteer award nominations, naming of Nora Bernard Street, parking ban information, an update on Dingle Road sidewalks and much more!

Contact me at Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or call 902.579.6746.

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JANUARY MEETINGS

Regional Council, Budget Committee, Halifax & West Community Council and Regional Centre Community Council meetings will be held on the following dates:

Regional Council:

Tuesday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Budget Committee:

Wednesday, January 18th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 20th at 9:30 a.m. (Contingency)

Wednesday, January 25th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 27th at 9:30 a.m.

Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

No meeting scheduled for January 2023 at this time.

Please check our [website](#) to confirm dates and times as the meeting schedule is subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW....

January is [Alzheimer Awareness Month](#), [National Blood Donor Month](#) and [Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#).

January 1st is [Global Family Day](#)

January 2nd is [World Introvert Day](#)

January 4th is [World Braille Day](#)

January 6th is [World Orphans Day](#)

January 8th is [World Typing Day](#)

January 11th is [Sir John A. MacDonald Day](#)

January 12th is [Kiss A Ginger Day](#)

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January 14th is [World Logic Day](#)

January 16th is [Martin Luther King Day](#)

January 18th is [Winnie the Pooh Day](#)

January 22nd is [Chinese New Year](#)

January 24th is [the International Day of Education](#)

January 25th is [Robbie Burns Night](#)

January 27th is [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)

January 27th is [Family Literacy Day](#)

January 28th is [International Lego Day](#)

January 31st is [National Hot Chocolate Day](#)

2023 VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS DEADLINE

LAST CALL!

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who gives back to the community? This is your chance to give them the recognition they deserve by nominating them for a Volunteer Award!

For detailed criteria and online applications, visit <http://halifax.ca/volunteerawards>. If you have an individual (adult or youth) or a group in mind that you'd like to nominate, please note the deadline is approaching on January 6th.

Successful nominees will be notified in March 2023 and will be invited to a special awards ceremony and banquet with Mayor Mike Savage and Regional Council during National Volunteer Week (April 16th – 22nd, 2023).

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TEMPORARY MULTI-USE PATH- COGSWELL DISTRICT



A temporary multi-use path (MUP) has been installed along the new detour roads connecting the Barrington Greenway to Lower Water and Hollis streets in the Cogswell District. The MUP provides additional mobility options and improves the connection to the All Ages and Abilities bikeway network in the Regional Centre.

The section of the MUP between Casino Nova Scotia and the Halifax Harbourfront Marriott Hotel has a reduced width of 2.4 metres due to existing site restraints.

In addition to the temporary MUP, a new pedestrian crossing has been installed in front of the Baton Rouge restaurant, facilitating a safe crossing on Lower Water and Hollis streets.

Cyclists have the option of using the MUP or riding on the street if they feel comfortable. If using the MUP, please be considerate of people walking or rolling and yield to them. For those travelling

southbound and connecting to Hollis Street, the MUP will end at the new crossing in front of the Halifax Harbourfront Marriott Hotel. Cyclists may use this crossing to connect to the Hollis Street bikeway and continue their journey southbound.

HRM'S 2023/24 BUDGET & BUSINESS PLANNING

The annual budget is a very important thing for the operation of our municipality. It funds all costs associated with servicing our municipality each year ensuring we can have our roads plowed during a snowstorm, that we have recreational facilities to enjoy, regular garbage pickup and so much more!

The municipality's [2023/24 Budget and Business Planning process](#) has now started and will continue into the spring of 2023. Over the winter, municipal business units present plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming fiscal year and outlining the required budgets to achieve their goals. During this process, Regional Council will ask questions, discuss, debate, and consider each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way.

The [2023/24 Budget and Business Plan approval](#) date is scheduled for April 25th, 2023, where Regional Council will finalize next year's budget.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BUDGET PROCESS?

- You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the

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budget process, and keep up to date on upcoming milestones [here](#)

- Here are some [common questions](#) and answers regarding the municipal budget, and how it is determined each year
- To learn more about the current 2021-25 HRM Strategic Priorities Plan that helps inform the budget direction, [click here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE BUDGET:

- During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. You can speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make any presentations before HRM Council about the municipal budget, then please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF BUDGET

PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023/24:

Dates could change, so the most up to date information and more background on the budget process can be [found here](#) or on the municipal events calendar [here](#).

NORA BERNARD STREET

On December 13th, 2022, Regional Council approved the renaming of Cornwallis Street to Nora Bernard Street. Read the full report [here](#).

Nora Bernard, Recipient of the Order of Nova Scotia, was a residential school survivor and prominent activist who successfully demanded compensation for residential school survivors. Learn more about Nora Bernard [here](#).

As directed by Regional Council, the renaming of Cornwallis Street is one of the recommendations of the [Task Force on the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis and the Recognition and Commemoration of Indigenous History](#), and a step towards reconciliation. Over the past year, residents across the municipality have been invited to participate in two surveys to provide their feedback on the renaming of Cornwallis Street.

An Advisory Group reviewed the survey results and made the recommendation of Nora Bernard Street. The recommendation was based on the number of votes received, the appropriateness of the name, the cultural significance of the name, whether the name reflects the diversity of the municipality, as well as the originality of the name.

The new street name will become effective in October 2023. As the municipality recognizes that address changes have an impact on business operations, the standard 60 days' notice, as required by [By-law C-300, Respecting Civic Addressing](#), will be extended to nine months to provide additional lead-time for businesses to prepare for and implement this change.

Further information can be found at halifax.ca/task-force.



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DINGLE ROAD - SIDEWALKS



Dingle Road has been on the wish list for new sidewalks for a while now. A sidewalk would help connect people from Herring Cove Road directly into Sir Sandford Fleming Park (the Dingle) on dedicated pedestrian infrastructure. This is of particular interest given the narrow winding roadway that exists today.

Dingle Road rates 'Above Average' to 'High' using HRM's [new sidewalk assessment tool](#). However, there are some significant constructability concerns associated with building this piece of sidewalk. Due to the narrow roadway and surrounding grades, it is suspected that we will need to widen the road to achieve this sidewalk, potentially leading to retaining walls and/or tree loss along the edge of the park. Neighbourhood engagement may be required before deciding how best to proceed. In addition, there are currently no curbs or stormwater drainage infrastructure, which would add to the overall cost of the project. The annual sidewalk budget for the entire municipality is typically around \$2.5M.

Currently, the timing for considering and adding sidewalks on Dingle Road is uncertain. Our hope is that next time Dingle Road comes up for recapitalization, sidewalks will be considered for incorporation alongside a public engagement

process to discuss potential impacts. The ability to build may be dependent on budget availability and prioritization that year, or the construction could be phased over a few years.

COGSWELL DISTRICT MOBILE APP



The Halifax Regional Municipality is launching a mobile app in support of the Cogswell District project.

With multiple roadways, ramps and key access points, the construction of the new Cogswell District is changing the way we navigate through downtown. While construction is underway, detours, closures and traffic delays are expected. Key features of the Cogswell District mobile app:

- optimizes your routing
- reflects current closures
- shares social media updates
- hosts images of construction progress
- includes an Open for Business section, which profiles businesses located in the Cogswell District and surrounding area
- provides access to the latest information about the project

This app provides users with the most effective directions to travel through the Cogswell District using various modes of travel (driving, cycling, walking, rolling and taking transit).

The app is integrated with Google Maps to reflect current road closures so users can plan their route in

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advance and is available for free download in the [App Store \(iOS\)](#) and the [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#). For more information, visit our [website](#).

HALIFAX ROADS: WINTER OPERATIONS

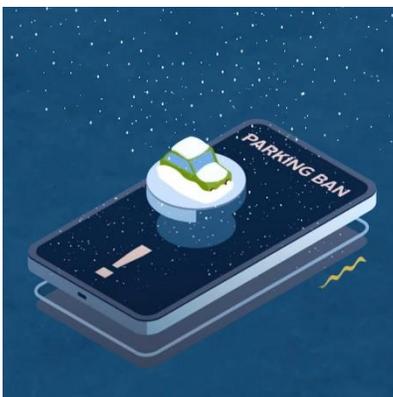
The Winter - Street and Sidewalk [Information](#) maps and the overnight winter parking ban zone map are web-based, interactive maps allowing users to view street information pertaining to Winter [Operations](#); for example, snow priority levels, street ownership, street maintenance and overnight winter parking ban zones.

Winter Street Information - [Map to find street information pertaining to winter.](#)

Winter Sidewalk Information - [Map to find sidewalk information pertaining to winter.](#)

Overnight winter parking ban zone map - [Find out which zone you live in.](#)

WINTER PARKING BAN



The municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect annually from December 15th to March 31st. The ban is enforced from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. during

declared weather events and snow removal

operations only. Sign up for hfxALERT notifications to receive important updates from the municipality, including Winter Parking Ban notifications:

www.halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/emergency-management/hfxalert

For more information on service standards, winter parking, and winter's impacts across our municipality, visit: halifax.ca/snow or keep up to date on clearing operations and municipal service updates via [@hfxgov on Twitter](#).

WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR MOTORISTS

Before the snow falls and winter sets in, Halifax Regional Police is sharing some winter safety tips to help road users be winter ready.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Keep a snowbrush or ice scraper in your vehicle and always clear your vehicle of ice and snow before driving.
- Be sure your tires are properly inflated with plenty of tread. You may also want to consider installing snow tires to improve traction in snow and ice.
- Consider topping up your vehicle with winterized fluids and make sure you have extra windshield washer fluid.
- Check your wiper blades to ensure they are in good condition.
- Keep a shovel and/or a bag of salt or sand in your vehicle in case you get stuck.



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- If snow has fallen, make sure your exhaust pipe is clear of ice and snow before starting your vehicle.

Driving safely for the road conditions

- Stay up to date with the weather conditions.
- Visibility is key. Before you hit the road, clear all snow from the roof, hood, license plate, windows, mirrors, lights, turn signals and cameras of your vehicle. Scrape/defrost your windshield if necessary.
- Be mindful that winter conditions can create challenges for pedestrians who may need to walk in the roadway to avoid snow-covered or icy sidewalks.
- Never drive distracted. Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. Watch for other road users, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- Adjust your speed to the conditions. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you so that you can safely slow down and/or stop. Remember not to accelerate or brake too quickly when the roads are slippery.

Parking

- Think before you park on the street. When and where you park in the winter can have a big impact on clearing streets and sidewalks, which, in turn, can affect road safety.
- In Nova Scotia, vehicles can be towed at anytime during the day or night on any day of the year if they are interfering with snow clearing operations, as per Section 139 of the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act.

- In addition, the municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect every year from December 15th to March 31st. It will be enforced only during declared weather events and ongoing clearing operations. When enforced, the parking ban is in effect from 1:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. throughout the Regional Centre of the municipality.

Let's all do our part to be winter ready and help yourself and others stay safer on the road!

ANNUAL TREE PRUNING PROGRAM



You might see HRM crews around your neighbourhood attending to municipal trees! That's because [HRM's cyclical tree pruning program](#) is now underway and will continue through March 2023.

This proactive approach to maintaining our urban forest prolongs the health of street trees, dramatically reduces tree hazards and is less resource intensive than a reactionary approach to maintaining trees individually.

Crews will complete the tree pruning program according to best practices regarding tree health and infrastructure clearances (e.g. considerations



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relating to roads, sidewalks, power lines and signage).

Municipal trees are assessed for maintenance and removal on an individual basis. If removal is deemed necessary, a new tree will be planted in its place.

To learn more and see maps of impacted areas, visit: halifax.ca/trees

Management. For full details, visit:

<https://fal.cn/3uqio>.

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CATHIE O'TOOLE – CAO

WELCOME TO OUR NEW
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



CATHIE
O'TOOLE

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Ms. O'Toole assumes her responsibilities as CAO on January 1st, 2023, with her first day in the office being Tuesday, January 3rd. Ms. O'Toole brings with her more than three decades of leadership and public sector experience – most recently as the General Manager of Halifax Water, a role she has held since 2019. From 2011-2019 she was the Director of Corporate Services/CFO for the municipally-owned water utility.

Prior to joining Halifax Water, she worked with the Halifax Regional Municipality for 10 years in a variety of roles including Director of Finance/CFO and Director of Infrastructure and Asset

I am a member of Halifax Regional Council, Halifax and West Community Council, Regional Centre Community Council and the following boards and committees:

- Audit and Finance Standing Committee
- Chain of Lakes Trails Association
- Community Design Advisory Committee
- Halifax Climate Investment, Innovation, and Impact Fund
- Investment Policy Advisory Committee, Co-Chair
- Transportation Standing Committee

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land Acknowledgement

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.



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Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement:

"The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People."

Historically, a Land Acknowledgment is a traditional practice shared amongst Indigenous groups to recognize the Indigenous land and territory they are visiting. Making a respectful Land Acknowledgement now, remains a way to express gratitude and respect to Indigenous peoples for being stewards of the land we live and work on. It is a crucial step in reconciliation.

In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*How to stay positive?
It's simple. Work hard,
enjoy what you're doing,
be honest, be kind and
believe in the inherent
goodness that
life has to offer.*

